

Amendments to and listing of the Claims:

Claims 3, 6-9, 11, and 14-16 are amended as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) Joint for frames of furnishing elements consisting of a plurality of components (11, 12, 13) able to be joined together, characterized in that it comprises at least a plane platelet element (15, 115) lying during use on a first plane, said plane platelet element (15, 115) including two convergent sides equipped with attachment teeth means (20) able to be inserted inside mating apertures (25) present on at least a first component (13) in order to determine the clamping of said at least one first component (13) and the joint (10), said plane platelet element (15, 115) being associated with a back (14b, 31) lying on a plane angled with respect to said first plane on which said plane platelet (15, 115) lies, said back (14b, 31) bearing at least a hole (17, 117) for the passage of attachment means (29) able to anchor on a second component (12) to be attached to said at least one first component (13).

2. (Original) Joint as in claim 1, characterized in that said attachment teeth means (20) define a clamping through interference of said at least one first component (13) next to said plane platelet element (15, 115).

3. (Currently Amended) Joint as in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that it comprises two plane platelet elements (15) able to be associated, parallel to each other, in correspondence with two opposite edges (18, 19) of a connection platelet element (14), lying on a plane substantially orthogonal to the plane on which said plane platelets (15) lie and able to define said back (14b).

4. (Original) Joint as in claim 3, characterized in that said connection platelet element (14), on at least one edge (18, 19), has coupling hollows (16) for said at least one second platelet element (15).

5. (Original) Joint as in claim 4, characterized in that said hollows (16) have the mouth partly flared.

6. (Currently Amended) Joint as in ~~any claim hereinbefore~~ claim 1, characterized in that said attachment teeth means (20) have at least a narrow segment (20b) able to determine the association between said connection platelet element (14) and said at least one plane platelet element (15).

7. (Currently Amended) Joint as in ~~any claim hereinbefore~~ claim 1, characterized in that said connection platelet element (14) comprises at least two lateral portions (14a) able to cooperate with the surfaces of said first components (13) on which surfaces said apertures (25) are made and defining between them an angle mating with the angle of union between said first components (13).

8. (Currently Amended) Joint as in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that it comprises in a single piece two plane faces (115) parallel to each other and united by a face lying on a plane substantially orthogonal to said plane faces (115) and able to define said back (31).

9. (Currently Amended) Joint as in ~~any claim hereinbefore~~ claim 1, characterized in that said plane platelet elements (15, 115) are conformed as an isosceles trapezoid with a greater base (23), oblique sides (22), along which said attachment teeth (20) are made, and a lesser base (21) able to face an edge (30) of said component (12).

10. (Original) Joint as in claim 9, characterized in that said lesser base (21) is conformed as an arc of a circle in order to couple with said edge (30).

11. (Currently Amended) Joint as in claim 3 ~~or 7~~, characterized in that it has one of said plane platelets (15) or faces (115) provided with attachment teeth (20), and the other of said plane platelets (15) or faces (115) without attachment teeth and able to couple in abutment against a corresponding segment of the component (11) to be joined.

12. (Original) Joint as in claim 9, characterized in that, in the case of coupling between a linear profile (13) and an intermediate upright (12) between two joints (10) arranged

specularly on opposite sides with respect to said upright (12), one of the two joints (10) has the oblique sides (22) without attachment teeth (20).

13. (Original) Joint as in claim 12, characterized in that, along said sides (22) without attachment teeth (20), it has insertion protrusions (32) cooperating with mating apertures (34).

14. (Currently Amended) Joint as in ~~any claim hereinbefore~~ claim 1, characterized in that said attachment teeth means (20) have at least a lead-in segment (20a), at least partly wedge-shaped, able to facilitate insertion thereof into said apertures (25).

15. (Currently Amended) Joint as in ~~any claim hereinbefore~~ claim 1, characterized in that said attachment teeth means (20) have at least an abutment surface (20c) able to cooperate with the edge (25a) of said apertures (25) in order to define the clamping position of said first components (13).

16. (Currently Amended) Joint as in ~~any claim hereinbefore~~ claim 1, characterized in that said second platelet elements (15) include holes (24) for the attachment of shelves or similar.